

Prayer Space Instructions: Primary 1st Prayer Space

During your time within the Prayer and Reflection Space the chances are that you will, at some point, have to explain one or more of the prayer and reflection activities. At each activity, there will be a short instruction card which explains the purpose of the activity. The text for these instruction cards has been included below so that you will have an idea of the different activities before you arrive. Please do not feel that you have to learn these, though!

During each session, you will be stationed at a particular prayer and reflection zone. As each group is directed towards you by the Prayer and Reflection Space leader, you will need to welcome them (ask their names) and encourage them to explore the activity. Depending on the age and ability of the students you may need to explain the activity to them again or help them by scribing their response to an activity. We would always encourage the Prayer and Reflection Space volunteers to interact with students as much as they think is necessary. Some students may want to quietly explore the activity by themselves, whilst others may be happy to just chat with you for the whole time, it is important that they are made to feel welcome in doing either. When talking with the students please use the language '*Many Christians believe...*' or '*As a Christian I believe...*'. Please do not pray with individual students or do any kind of corporate group prayer.

1) Sorry Sand

"I wish I hadn't..." "I'm sorry I..." "I didn't mean to..." How would you finish these sentences?

All of us have done things we regret, or wish we could change.
Maybe you feel like you want a fresh start?

Christians believe that when they say sorry to God, he forgives them and gives them a fresh start.

If you want to, write the word 'sorry' in the sand as you think about something that you want to say sorry for, and move on from, before then brushing it away. (You don't need to ask students what they are sorry for or to ask them to explain their thoughts)

2) Thank you Play Dough

What are you thankful for?

There are many wonderful things to be thankful for in our world. Christians like to say thank you to God for these things.

We can be thankful for physical things like cars, food, homes, water, games consoles, clothes, holidays...

We can be thankful for spiritual things like friendships, peace, happiness, love, hope, kindness...

If you would like to, make something you are thankful for out of the play dough as a prayer or reflection.

3) Please Bubbles

What is on your mind?

Do you have worries about the future?

Is there anything you need?

Are there things you want to see changed?

Christians believe that God cares about all their worries and needs and that He hears all their prayers. The bubbles going up the tube in the middle here represent all our prayers and thoughts.

If you would like to, write or draw something that you are thinking about on a post-it note and stick it onto the bubble tube as a prayer or reflection.

4) World Map

Look at the world map and think about the things that are going on around our world. Christians believe that it is important to care for our world and the people in it.

Think about any family or friends you may know in another part of the world.

Think about different situations happening around the world that you've heard about, where people need help.

If you would like to, write or draw a prayer or thought for someone you know or about something that is happening in the world onto a post-it note and stick it onto the map.